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MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS OF THE GENERAL COMMITTEE, SECRET COMMITTEE AND PROVINCIAL CONGRESS, 1775.

(Continued from the July number.)

[56]

[THE COUNCIL OF SAFETY[1] TO CAPT. EDWARD THORNBOROUGH.]

Sir,

In answer to your Letter of Yesterday's Date the General Committee think proper to inform you, that they have not refused a Supply of Provisions to the King's Ships in this Harbour, nor have they taken one Step to prevent their Watering. The hostile Dispositions which the Commander of those Ships has for some Time past shewn towards this Colony, by imprisoning its Pilots, affording Sandmary to a Traitor, Seizing its Seamen, dismantling its principal Fortification, stopping private Property, and firing upon the Persons of its Inhabitants who were not only peaceable but unarmed, and driven from the Shore, do make it necessary, in their Opinion, to alter the Mode of Supply. And as you have declared, that you do not mean to leave the Station, it can be no Disadvantage to His Majesty's Ships to receive their Provisions from Day to Day in this warm Climate.

You are pleased to assert, that we have taken the

[1]This letter should have appeared among the Council of Safety papers which appeared in the first issues of this *Magazine*, but, owing to the fact that the letter pertained to business of the General Committee, it was inadvertently placed with the papers of the General Committee. For the action which brought the letter from Capt. Thornborough to which this was the reply see the journal of the Council of Safety, *Collections of the South-Carolina Historical Society*, Vol. III., pp. 66-67. At a meeting of the Council of Safety, held December 16, 1775, it was ordered that "a letter be written to Capt. Thornborough, aquainting him that all further supplies of provisions to the king's ships will be prohibited, unless the fugitive slaves of the inhabitants which receive protection from them, are forthwith delivered up."

absolute Government of this Province into our Hands. Let it Suffice as an Answer to you, Sir, that we deny the Charge—But you may depend we shall notwithstanding any Threats take every necessary Step in our Power for securing our Property and preserving Peace and good Order in this His Majesty's Government.

By order of the Council of Safety.
Henry Laurens,
President

Endorsed: Copy
To Capt Edward

[57]

[THE PROVINCIAL CONGRESS TO LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR BULL.]

May it please Your Honour,

We, the Representatives of the good People of this Colony in Congress assembled to consult the Peace and Safety of our Constituents think it our Duty to explain to your Honour, and to the world, the Motives which have *influenced* us *to* the Measures we have taken. And accordingly, we do, with the utmost Solemnity, Declare, that no Love of Innovation, no Desire of altering the Constitution of our Government, no Lust of Independence, has had the least *Influence* upon our *Councils*: But—alarmed by the repeated arbitrary Acts of a wicked Administration, impressed *with* the greatest Apprehension of instigated Insurrections *and other impending Dangers,* and deeply affected by the late bloody Scene at Lexington in the Massachusetts-Bay, with no other View than the Preservation of our Lives, Liberties and Property, and to secure the Peace and good Order of this His Majesty's Colony, we have been impelled to associate and to take up arms.

Notwithstanding which we do most solemnly appeal to Heaven that we still bear the warmest attachment to our present Sovereign George the Third, his Person, Crown and Dignity; We sincerely deplore those slanderous in-

formations and wicked Councils by which he has been misled and which may involve America in all the Calamities of Civil war. We desire nothing but the secure Enjoyment of the common and unalienable Rights of English Freeman & to recover the favour of our. We wish for nothing more ardently than a thorough Reconciliation with Great-Britain upon Constitutional Principles.

These Things we have thought it our Duty to declare, in the most explicit manner, that your Honour and thro' you our august Sovereign, our Fellow Subjects in Great-Britain, and the whole world, may clearly understand that our present Proceedings are the Result of dire Necessity, not of choice; in Compliance with the Dictates of the first Law of Nature, not the Effect of Levity and a Desire of Change.

We trust Your Honour will make such a Representation of the State of this Colony and of our True Motives, as to assure his Majesty that in the midst of all our complicated Distresses he has no Subjects in his wide Dominions who more sincerely desire to have it in their Power to testify their Loyalty and Affection or who would be more willing to spend their Blood and Treasure in his real Service.

Endorsed: Copy of an Address
to the L^{t}. Govr.

[58]

[RECOMMENDATION OF A COMMITTEE AS TO THE PURCHASING OF RICE.]

The Committee appointed to take the disposition of the Rice remaining in the Province, into their Consideraton Do recommend —

That Capt. Christ. Gadsden, M^{r}. W^{m}. Gibbes, M^{r} W^{m}. Parker, M^{r}. Roger Smith, Capt, Mau^{ce} Simons, M^{r}. John Poaug, M^{r}. Tho. Legaré Sen. Capt. Edw. Blake, M^{r}. Jno. Champneys,

shall be Commiss^{rs}. to receive and purchase all such good

[two or three words gone] Rice as shall be render'd to them for sale [several words missing] day of July next, and the said Commiss^{rs}. or any three of them shall give [word or two gone] to each person from whom they shall purchase Rice, assertaining the number of Barrels the Net weight and amount of 55/ ℔. C^{t}. and Barrels being well Cooper'd at 10/ each And the said Commiss^{rs} or a Majority of them at any regular meeting—shall dispose of the several parcels of Rice which they shall so purchase in such way or manner as to them shall seem most conducive to the Public good, and that regular Acco^{s}, of the purchases & dispositions of the said Rice shall be kept and returned to the Congress or Genl. Committee for the time being Provided nevertheless that the aforesaid Prohibition shall cease & determine at any time after the 15 July when the General Comme shall order & direct by a vote at one of their stated meetings after a Weeks notice of their purpose to take such special matter under their consideration—

and that the following quantities of Rice shall be placed by the Comm^{rs}. afors^{d}. in Public Granaries at each of the places hereinafter mention'd that is to say at

Chas. Town abo^{t}.	200 bbs.	
Beaufort .. .	100.	
Pocotaligo . .	200.	
Jacksonborough	1000.	
Dorchester . .	500.	
Watboo . . .	500.	
		2700—Barrels
At George Town -- -- --	200	

& that proper persons be appointed at each place to receive the same, & a sufficient Guard for the security thereof and your Committee recommend that those persons who have Rice in the Country for Sale do give Notice thereof to the the Commissioners before they transport such Rice from their several plantations.

And your Committee further recommend that this Congress

do make provision for the effectual payment of such Certificates as shall be Issued by the Commiss^{rs}. for the purchases of Rice made by them together with the Charges incident thereon.

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[MAGAZINES FOR AND INSPECTORS OF RICE AND FLOUR.]

Resolved—that the Congress will make provision for the effectual payment of such Certificates as shall be issued by the Commissioners for the purchases of Rice & Flour made by them together with all charges & expenses attending the same—& the following Magazines of Merchantable Inspected Flour

at Ninety Six	200 bbs—
at Orangeburgh	100 bbs—
at Mr Hammond's Store between the forks of Broad & Saluda River—	100 bbs—
at Mr Jonas Beard's Store at Congaree—	100 bbs—
at Smith's Ferry on Broad River	100 bbs—

The price of Flour to be restricted to Three pounds per hundred Weight of inspected Merchantable Flour in good Barrels delivered at each Magazine & no more—
and that proper persons be appointed to receive such Rice & Flour
that is to say—

at Beaufort	M^{r} W^{m}. Kelsall &
	Mr John Edwards
At Pocotaligo.	M^{r}. Tho. De Saussure
	M^{r}. Joseph Ainges
At Jacksonborough.	M^{r} Ch. Shepheard
	M^{r} Is: Hayne
	Mr Jos. Bee

At Dorchester.	M^{r}. R^{d}. Walter
	Mr Tho. Waring, jun.
At Watboo.	M^{r}. Geo. Redhead
	M^{r} Ja^{s}—Cordes, jun.
	M^{r}. John Cordes
Ninty six.	Col. Ja^{s}. Mayson
	M^{r}. W^{m}. Moore
At Geo. Town.	Mr Anth Bonneau
	M^{r}. Saml. Smith
At Orangeburg.	M^{r}. Donald Bruce
	M^{r}. Henry Felder
Fork bet. Broad & Saludy R.	M^{r}. Jonath. Downes
	M^{r}. Ja^{s}. Young
At Congress. —	W^{m}. Arthar, Esqr
	Doc^{r}. Benj. Farrar
Smith's Ferry Broad—River	M^{r}. W^{m}. Henry
	M^{r}. Saml. Watson

And in case of the death of either of the aforementioned persons or refusal to sign the general Association the Committee in the Parish or district where any vacancy shall happen by Death refusal to subscribe the Association as aforesaid or from any other cause—shall forthwith appoint some other persons for the purposes aforesaid.

Guards—the Consideration posponed.....